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○ ISSUE 30 | ○ VOLUME 7

Community *notes*

Sweet Judy Blue Eyes Returns

Don't miss the opportunity to hear the legendary Judy Collins right here in Columbia!

Judy Collins' return performance in Columbia takes place on Saturday, April 1 at the James Rouse Theatre (5460 Trumpeter Rd, Columbia), presented by our very own [Columbia Festival of the Arts](#). Judy remains a fabulous singer and entertainer who creates music of hope and healing that lights up the world and speaks to the heart.

Judy has inspired audiences with sublime vocals, boldly vulnerable songwriting, personal life triumphs, and a firm commitment to social activism. In the 1960s, she evoked both the idealism and steely determination of a generation united against social and environmental injustices. Five decades later, her luminescent presence shines brightly as new generations bask in the glow of her iconic 50-album body of work, and heed inspiration from her spiritual discipline to thrive in the music industry for half a century.



Tickets are selling quickly; click [here](#) to purchase your tickets today!

Section A: \$63.00 (Student/Senior/Military Discount \$58.00)
Section B: \$58.00 (Student/Senior/Military Discount \$53.00)
Section C: \$48.00 (Student/Senior/Military Discount \$43.00)

Greetings

February may be the short on the number of days but it's a month long on fun.

Enjoy!

HoCo Poetry and Literature Society Events

Irish Evening

Award-winning writer and playwright Belinda McKeon will be HoCoPoLitSo's guest for their annual Irish Evening this Friday! The night will also feature Narrowbacks Eileen Korn Estes, Jesse Winch, Terence Winch, Linda Hickman, and Michael Winch in a concert of traditional Irish music, with step dancers from the Culkin School. Don't miss this evening celebrating Irish literature and culture on February 10, starting at 7:30 p.m. in Howard Community College's Smith Theater. For more information and to buy tickets online, visit this [website](#).



Wilde Readings

HoCoPoLitSo presents the next in a series [Wilde Readings](#). This monthly literary reading series features local poets and authors, as well as an open mic for interested audience members. On Tuesday, February 14 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., visit the Columbia Art Center (6100 Foreland Garth, Columbia) to discuss the literary works of Austin Camacho and Maritza Rivera. Explore how the craft of writing can inspire and fuel the imagination with these seasoned authors. Attendance is free of charge, no reservation required. Open mic presenters are asked to keep their readings to five minutes or less.

Celebration of the Arts Gala

[Tickets](#) are now available for *Celebration of the Arts* on Saturday, March 25 at the Horowitz Visual and Performing Arts Center (10901 Little Patuxent Pkwy, Columbia). The gala begins with a reception from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. featuring a silent auction of artwork by local artists, delectable edibles provided by local restaurants, and live musical performances.



At 8:00 p.m. the celebration continues with the presentation of a special 'All-Star' edition of the Rising Star Competition and the 2016 Howie Awards. \$100.00 tickets include the reception, silent auction and reserved seats in the Smith Theatre; \$50.00

tickets include the reception, silent auction and general seating in the Studio Theatre for the simulcast. This event is the Howard County Arts Council's main source of private and corporate funding and helps to support their grant and scholarship programs, as well as their education programs for children and adults throughout the year.

Parenting Classes and More

Howard County's Department of Community Resources and Services has issued the Winter 2017 edition of the [Parent Pages](#), a newsletter designed for parents and families raising children. The Department is offering the following February Family Institute Workshops:

[Discipline and Communication Part 1 & 2](#) (ages 1-8)

Part 1 (Wednesday, February 22 • 6:00-8:00 p.m.) Set the stage for better behavior. Become familiar with temperament types and learn how to use this information to individualize your interactions with your child. Discuss ways to effectively communicate with your child and the importance of structure, consistency and self-esteem.

Part 2 (Wednesday, March 8 • 6:00-8:00 p.m.) Learn how to teach children self-control and problem-solving techniques that they can use in the moment of behavior problems. Establish rules and logical consequences for misbehavior that are developmentally appropriate. Discuss behavior charts and a variety of other options to encourage behaviors that you want to see.



Location: Ellicott City 50+ Fitness Center, 9411 Frederick Rd, Ellicott City, MD 21042

Cost: \$16.00 per person

Who Should Attend: Any parent, grandparent or caregiver who wants to improve their parenting skills and learn hands on ideas for raising a healthy, happy child ages one to eight.

[Register Online for Discipline and Communication Part 1 & 2](#)

Register By Phone (voice/relay): 410-313-1940

Colored Schools of Howard County

The Glenwood Library hosts a magnificent exhibit of historic photographs of ten Colored Schools once funded and operated by Howard County. The schools operated until the mid-sixties, when they became integrated. Some of the original structures still stand today, while others have been lost to time. The collection of photographs has been painstakingly restored by Mattie Hayes, Docent of the Heritage Program of Howard County Recreation & Parks. Visit the installation throughout Black History Month at 2350 MD-97 in Cooksville.



The Village in Howard County Celebrates Fifteen Years

[The Village In Howard](#) is proud to announce that renowned surgeon, public health researcher and writer Dr. Atul Gawande is the guest speaker at the 15th Celebration of the founding of Beacon Hill Village and the Village Movement it inspired on Monday, February 13 at 4:30 p.m. at a simulcast at the Miller Library (9421 Frederick Road, Ellicott City).

The conversation, entitled "Being Mortal's Villages: The Value of Community and Choice as We Grow Older," features a discussion on aging, living life with purpose, and how we can transform the possibilities for the later chapters of everyone's lives. This is a free event but advance registration is required. Register via the [website](#) or by phone at 443-367-9043.

Summer is Right Around the Corner...

Although summer feels far away, it's time to start thinking about which camps to send the kids after school ends in June! There's a camp for everyone; whether it be packed with playing outdoors or inside the theater rehearsing a play, your kids are going to love going to camp this summer. Check out the possibilities using the links below, and sign up soon!

[Howard County Recreation and Parks Summer Camp Guide](#)

[Columbia Association Camps](#) (Register by February 28 for 10% discount)

[HCRP 2017 Spring and Summer Activities Guide](#) (for all ages)

[The Walters Art Museum Summer Camps](#)

[Walters Art Museum Teen Workshops](#)

[Howard County Arts Council Performing and Visual Arts Camps](#)

[Columbia Center for Theatrical Arts Summer Camps](#)

[Maryland Science Center Summer Camps](#)



Tax Tips

The Howard County [Office of Consumer Protection](#) offers the following useful advise during tax season.

- **File Early** - Identity thieves try to steal money from the IRS by filing returns using stolen social security numbers. This also results in a lot of hassle and delayed refunds for tax payers. By filing early, you can reduce the odds of becoming a victim.
- **Check Out Your Preparer** - All tax preparers, whether working individually or as part of a national tax preparation chain, must be licensed by the MD Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation (DLLR). Make sure your preparer is properly licensed by going to DLLR's [website](#). To avoid surprises, ask for a list of all charges and potential fees before your taxes are prepared.
- **Avoid Refund Anticipation Loans** - Many tax preparers offer to provide your refund immediately in the form of a refund anticipation "loan." Be aware, however, that fees and interest on that loan will be deducted from your refund. Instead, choose to get your refund directly deposited into your bank account. The deposit is usually made in just a few days, and you will get the full amount of your refund.
- **Stay Alert for IRS Imposters** - The IRS does not call taxpayers who owe back taxes. Hang up on callers who claim that you will be jailed if you don't immediately pay money using credit cards, prepaid debit cards, gift cards, back account debits or wire transfers.

Velvet Path Stormwater Improvements

A Howard County construction project to improve a stormwater management retention pond in the vicinity of Velvet Path and Summer Sunrise Drive began in early February. This project will replace the existing pond infrastructure, stabilize the downstream outfall and provide additional water quality treatment. Weather permitting, the project is expected to be completed by late April. For questions or concerns about Capital Project D-1159, contact Lisa Brightwell, Public Works Customer Service, at 410-313-3440 or via [email](#).

Presidents' Day Closings

Howard County Government offices, courts, 50+ centers and the animal shelter will be closed in observance of Presidents' Day on Monday, February 20. However, regular trash, recycling and food scrap services will be in effect and the Alpha Ridge Landfill will be open.

The Regional Transportation Agency (RTA) will operate on a regular weekday schedule; for more information on RTA, call 1-800-270-9553 or visit www.transitrt.com. All parking regulations and fees will be in effect. The 9-1-1 Center, Police and Fire departments remain staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For emergencies, call 9-1-1; for non-emergencies, call 410-313-2200. All parking regulations and fees will be in effect. Click [here](#) to read the full news release.

Upcoming Events

Valentine's Day Yoga

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Haven on the Lake

10275 Little Patuxent Parkway, Columbia

Valentine's— themed yoga sessions designed to help participants revive, relax, and rejuvenate. Access is granted on a same-day, space-available basis. Click [here](#) for schedule and rates.

Leadership U Howard County

Monday, February 13, 7:00—8:00 p.m.

Central Library

10375 Little Patuxent Parkway, Columbia, MD 21044

Howard County sophomores with a passion for community service are invited to learn more about [Leadership U](#) at the next [information session](#).

Art Reception

Artists' Gallery

Friday, February 10, 6:00—8:00 p.m.

8197 Main Street, Ellicott City, MD 21043

[Artists' Gallery](#) dedicates February to acquainting its visitors and patrons to member artists during its upcoming show, "Introductions." All are welcome to the opening reception for the show, with food and wine.

Columbia Arts Center

Sunday, February 12, 2:00—4:00 p.m.

6100 Foreland Garth, Columbia, MD 21045

The [Columbia Arts Center](#) presents the Maryland Pastel Society Signature Member Show, Taking Position with Pastel.

Bernice Kish Gallery

Sunday, February 19, 3:00—5:00 p.m.

10400 Cross Fox Lane, Columbia, MD 21044

In celebration of Wilde Lake Village's 50th birthday, the [Bernice Kish Gallery](#) invites the public to attend a reception where guests can enjoy refreshments and music by Bruce Casteel.



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